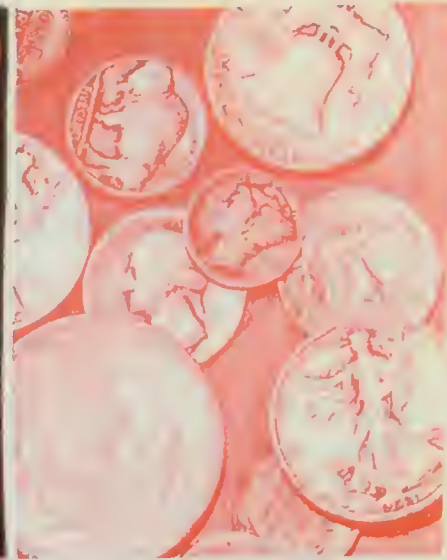




NOW

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN

NEWS



VOL. 8

NO. 4

To Melt Or Not To Melt

N.O.W. THOUGHT FOOD

Of the many articles that have appeared throughout numismatic publications in recent months regarding the silver coin situation, none have really sought out the role of the average collector.

Specifically these articles have considered the effects that the melting of coins will have on numismatics, but have failed to point out that a large majority of the silver coins being sent to the melting pot are channeled through the grass roots collector.

Every coin collector as well as most of the general public has become aware of the absence of pre-1965 silver coins from the "change" currently found in circulation.

The public invariably seeks out a convenient marketplace for the silver they accumulate and the small collector looking for a fast buck then serves this purpose.

With the current trend toward melting down silver coinage for its bullion value, the recorded mintage figures become increasingly less significant with respect to existing quantities of the various denominations, dates, and mints.

It is entirely possible, in fact quite likely, that many of the so-called "common" late-date silver coins are, even now, worth far more numismatically than in bullion content.

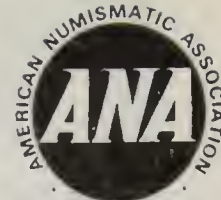
With this in mind, before you sell your stockpile of silver coins, it would warrant a second look. Granted a lion's share of the "silver bullion" being melted is badly worn, damaged, or excessively common, but on "Border-line" mintages, remember the laws of supply and demand also apply to the hobby of coin collecting.

N.O.W. - WAUSAU - N.O.W. - WAUSAU - N.O.W.

N.O.W. 1971 - WAUSAU

Plans are developing smoothly for the 1971 N.O.W. Show to be held at the Wausau Labor Temple on June 12 and 13, 1971. Efforts are being made to bring "The Billion Dollar Display" to the show as well as the award-winning "Franklin Mint Story" film.

Committees are working on ladies' activities and special interest tours for "out-of-towners." Start making your plans to attend this one!



Our state organization through our association with the American Numismatic Association is aiding the establishment of a bureau for the purpose of authenticating coins for any and all collectors or dealers requiring such a service.

The authenticity of most coins can be determined by an experienced eye and good magnification. However, as most dealers will tell you, it is not always possible to be as certain the genuineness of ALL coins through these means. From time to time a rarity of doubtful origin will appear on the market, and due to the lack of experience or general know-how, there are times when its authenticity cannot be ascertained through the normal processes. With the establishment of an agency such as ANAT, this problem could be eliminated.

The fees to be charged by ANAT for its services will be minimal, reflecting only the time and equipment necessary in processing a coin. A \$3.00 minimum fee has been proposed with a range, of course, dependent totally upon the requirements necessary to determine the authenticity of a given coin.

N.C.W. DISPLAY CASES TO BE AUCTIONED OFF

All member clubs of N.O.W. will have an opportunity to bid on for purchase six standard A.N.A. display cases in a travel shipping case. The display cases were purchased by N.O.W. in 1962 for the purpose of encouraging displays at local and state shows and were loaned to any club in Wisconsin that needed them. Over the years a decreasing need has become apparent with only one or two loans being made the last two years. In action taken at the N.O.W. interim meeting in Fond du Lac in September, the Board of Governors ruled that the auction should be held in May 1971 with cases available immediately after the Wausau N.O.W. Show on June 12 and 13.

All Wisconsin clubs will be given 60 days' notice before the May 1 bidding date and all four sets of cases will be offered. With the standard A.N.A. case no longer available, it would appear the N.C.W. cases will be "in demand."

DISTRICT GOVERNORS' REPORT

The A.N.A. District Governors' Meeting was held at the Chase Plaza Hotel on August 28. After a fine breakfast the 30 persons present were called to order by A.N.A. Governor Glen Smedley. We were honored by the presence of A.N.A. Governor Richard Long of Corpus Christi, Texas. Many and various subjects were discussed: A.N.A. insurance, issuing of a new membership directory, A.N.A.T., having club speakers available in every district, and lack of communication with A.N.A. headquarters through delayed or complete failure to reply to correspondence. Also, a long discussion was held on many difficulties encountered by coin clubs in borrowing coin slides. These included: long waits for popular series, late delivery to clubs (sometimes due to mails). Many clubs are remiss in returning the sets late, thereby causing unavoidable delays in delivery to the next club. Also considered was the possibility of improving some of the slides by using a better grade coin. Carelessness in returning the slides, not in proper order in the case and with slides missing, causes delays in reassignment also.

Governor Long related that many improvements have already been inaugurated and many more are in the offing by A.N.A. headquarters staff and officials.

I would greatly appreciate it if Wisconsin clubs would send in their comments on any of the above items or what services they feel should be offered by the American Numismatic Association.

A.N.A. District Representative
Gordon Gill
3614 Spring Trail
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

These days history is being made faster than we can afford it.



CONVENTION REPORT

1970 ANA Convention was held in St. Louis, Missouri August 18 through 22. Park Plaza Hotel was an excellent place for the "Big Show," with ample living spaces, a giant bourse auditorium, and a readily accessible display area. The displays were of excellent quality but not of the educational level and interest of either the Baraboor Madison, Wisconsin Shows of 1968. The exhibit area was the site of the "Billion Dollar" exhibit and printing (treasury) display. Even with these distractions, the traffic was rather light for the national show. Held in conjunction with the ANA Convention were business and social gatherings of The Society of Paper Money Collectors, Token and Medal Society, and the Civil War Token Society.

As for the overall convention, Clem Bailey has this to say:

"So many bits of information and other important convention news were overlooked by a happenstance at the Ten-Ten Club in the hotel Friday night, August 21. The crush of thirsty numismatists must have forced the bartender to make a decision, as he quit in the middle of the stream."

FRACTIONAL PROPOSAL BY ANA PRESIDENT

Plans and recommendations for issuance of 50¢ fractional currency in 1976 are presently being considered. Herbert Bergen, ANA President and Advisory Council Member to the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, underlined proposals in September's issue of THE NUMISMATIST. In the "President's Message," Bergen foresees great promise for the bill's acceptance by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing including favorable Congressional response.

The issue of fractional currency would cost far less than any issue of medals or coins which would be beset by the controversy over use of metallic content. This currency would be limited in quantity but would be legal tender. It would be distributed to the public through the Federal Reserve Banking channels. Thus, it would not meet with one of the problems found in distributing coins.

THE COINAGE OF ICELAND AND GREENLAND

O.B. Carlsen illustrates and discusses the coinage of two Danish possessions, Iceland and Greenland. The reader will find eight (8) pages devoted to both the government and private minted issues of these autonomous kingdoms.

The catalogue is pleasantly illustrated and the descriptions are accompanied with bits of historical data surrounding the coinage.

The reprint from The Numismatist is available for 50¢ by writing ANA Librarian, P.O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901.

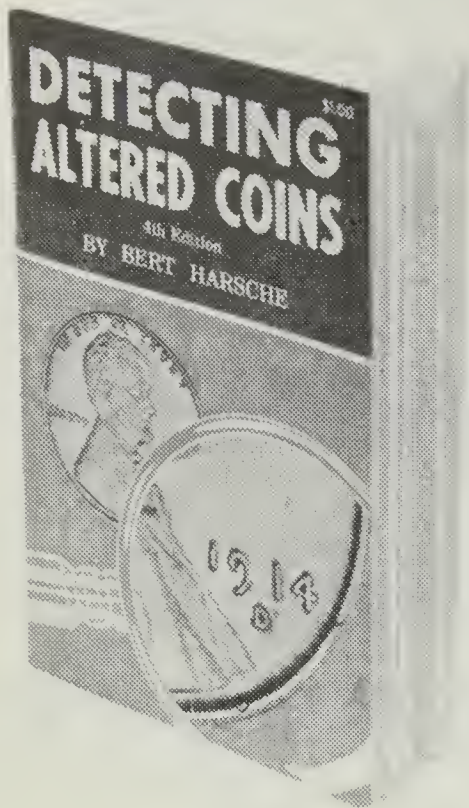
SUTLERS AND THEIR TOKENS 1861-1866

James J. Curto wrote this article on sutlers in hopes that it would provide the nucleus for some collectors to do extended numismatic research into this little-sought area. The existence of the sutler reaches back as far as 1588 and each country who had an army, had sutlers. His importance to a moving army is discussed and also his relationship to the government and post he served.

Curto devotes the latter portion of his article to the numismatic importance of the sutler. Included are four (4) illustrated pages of sutler tokens with an extensive index of the many specimens. And finally the remainder, which contains over seven (7) illustrated pages of sutler scrip and cardboard issue. The reprint is 37 pages long and guaranteed enjoyable for the numismatist and history buff alike. This reprint can be obtained for \$1.00 by writing the ANA Librarian, American Numismatic Association, Box 2366, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Eagle was used as a symbol of Rome's power about 2,000 years before we adopted it as our national emblem.



The release of two definitive new standard works in the coin collecting field that will fill a major void in the exnumia and military memorabilia areas on collector bookshelves has been announced.

"MILITARY TOKENS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1866-1969" - has been authored by James J. Curto, a long-time and widely recognized authority in the military token field.

The work catalogs all known military tokens issued from 1866 to 1969.

The second title - "WORLD WAR II PRISONER OF WAR SCRIPT OF THE UNITED STATES" is authored by Albert I. Donn, who compiled camp listings and ticket issues. This elusive money form was issued in accordance with Geneva Treaty agreements requiring captors to provide their prisoners with monetary needs for health and comfort.

Both volumes are available direct from the publisher:

Krause Publications
Book Division
Iola, Wisconsin 54945

NEW EDITION OF "DETECTING ALTERED COINS"

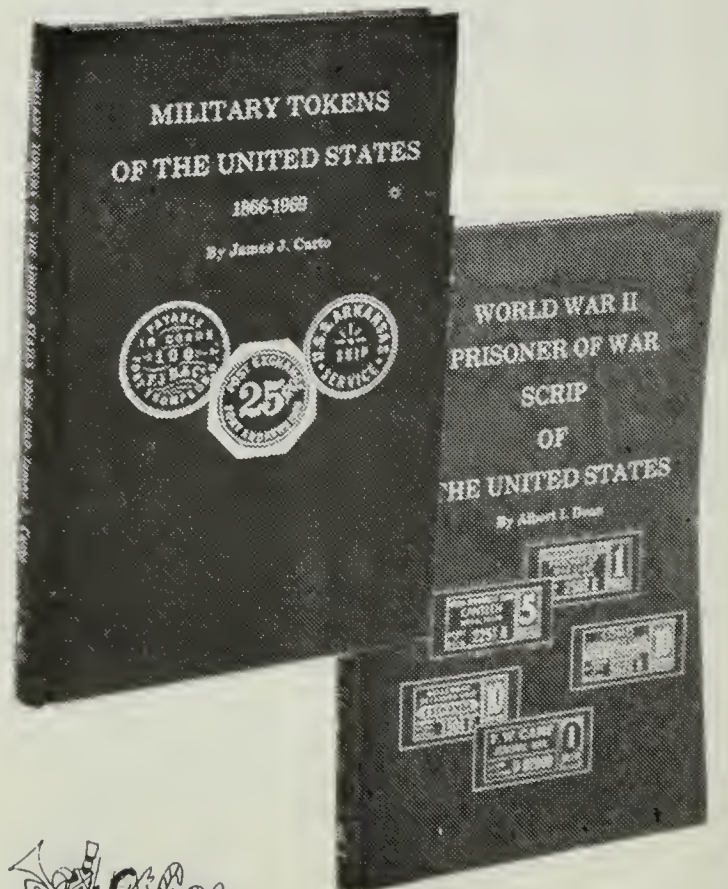
The release of a new expanded edition of Bert Harsche's "DETECTING ALTERED COINS" has been announced by ANCO of Florence, Alabama. The 40-page volume is priced at \$1.00 and may be purchased from most coin dealers or direct from the publisher, ANCO, Florence, Alabama 35630.

The illustrated volume tells the collector in both words and pictures how to detect the frequently altered U.S. coins from half cents through the gold issues.

Detailed photos are used throughout the work to show both the genuine and altered versions of all key coins.

A general information section provides general descriptions of alterations achieved by removing metal, shaving mint marks, splitting coins, punching, soldering or gluing on mint marks, and the use of acid. Also discussed is the polishing of uncirculated coins to make them resemble proofs.

The present small-sized paper money replaced the large bills in 1929. The shrunken buying power of the dollar came somewhat later.



EDITOR'S COMMENTS ON THE 1970 FALL COIN SHOWS

LA CROSSE

The La Crosse Coin Club moved their fall show to a larger, more suitable site. The crowds appeared good and the show was, as usual, well organized and operated. Exhibits were "average."

FOND DU LAC

Karl Ray Lanes site and good crowds made the Fond du Lac Show a success. Better than average crowds and "average" exhibits.

MILWAUKEE

The show was the usual well-attended and organized effort by The Milwaukee Numismatic Society. Strong points were the standard meeting date (same weekend each year), spacious quarters at The Memorial Building, and a wonderful awards breakfast at The Ambassador Hotel. The exhibits (though few in number) did include two exceptional displays. (Chuck Opitz's Odd and Curious and Gale Highsmith's Appolo Medals)

MADISON

Pleasant Lorraine Hotel site and very large and varied exhibit display made Madison's fall show well worth the 120-mile trip. The exhibits were top quality and included several fine new examples plus the superb Jackson displays.

JANESVILLE

No exhibits at Janesville but space and facilities for plenty (next year?). Unusually nice selection of foreign coins on the bourse. Improved site and the many willing workers down here should revitalize club activity in the area.

NEWS BRIEFS

BONANZA!

Marvin Baseman (N.O.W.#795) made a fine "haul" of scarce coins when he recently purchased \$1000 in silver for melt-down. Included in the "haul" were a number of nice standing quarters including 1926-S and 1927-S, six Barber coins, a 1932-D quarter in VG, a 1938-D half dollar in AF, three 1921 dimes, 1931-S dime, and last, but not least, a 1916-D dime in nice collectable condition!

NEW COIN SHOP

Former N.O.W. Board Member, Glen Williams, has opened a coin shop at 33 Forest Avenue in Fond du Lac.

Glen's shop will feature coins and paper money, coin supplies, and a wide range of hobby supplies. The shop name is "Gelt Hobby Shop."

N.O.W. Governor Virgil Jackson recently spoke and showed slides at the meeting of the active Baraboo Coin Club. Virgil's subject was the coins of the Isle of Man. Baraboo wooden nickels ("Circus") are still available at two for 25¢ from:

William Turnipseed

732 Fifth St.

Baraboo, Wis. 53913

Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your order.

N.O.W. Stemwinder Harold Preive of Portage, Wis., underwent serious throat surgery on November 2. Harold was awarded the N.O.W. Award of Merit at "Green Bay N.O.W. 1970" for his outstanding recruitment of members for the state organization. (GET WELL FAST HAROLD!!)

PLANNING A FALL COIN SHOW?

Veteran show chairman Del Bertschy is a football fan and knows the competition. The Milwaukee Show is never held on weekends that the Packers are in town!

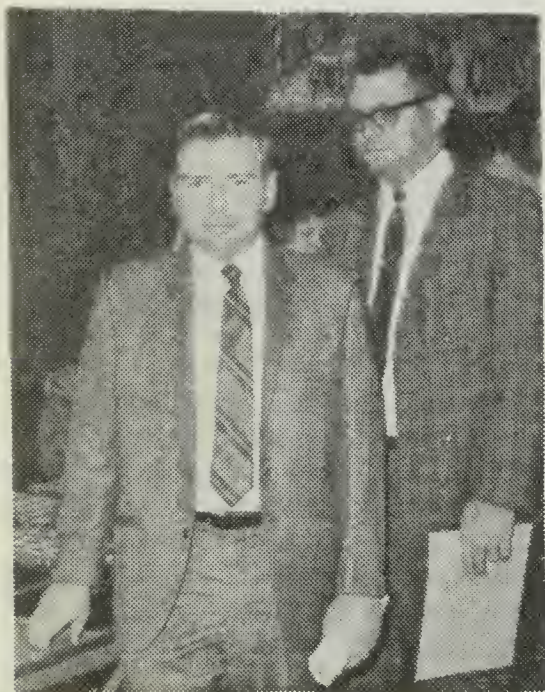




N.O.W. Governor Cliff Manthe
tends table at La Crosse Show



Ray Lindquist enjoys the
exhibits at La Crosse Show



N.O.W. Officials Mike
Segersin and Cliff
Mishler pause in the
Fond du Lac bourse
area



Fond du Lac Registration Crew
Walter Smith, Janet Waldschmidt,
and Colleen McKibbin in action

**EVERYONE READS
N.O.W. NEWS**



Harold Preive and dealer
"Buck" Gunderson talk it
over at Fond du Lac's
Karl Ray Lanes



Pete Forester seems happy to be back behind the bourse table (Milwaukee Show) 7-A



Bill Wright of Mesa, Arizona was one of several out-of-state dealers at Milwaukee Show 7-B



Mrs. Laverne Pernot and Mike Barra are registration crew of the Madison Fall Show



Resplendently jacketed Bob Little of Baraboo views the Madison Show trophies.

PAY YOUR DUES.....



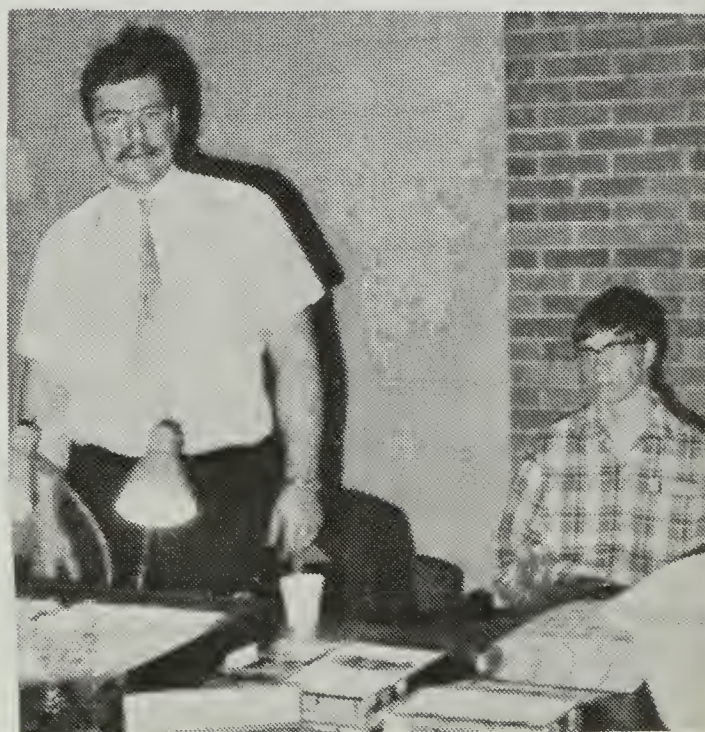
Virginia Culver and
N.O.W. Governor Del
Bertschy chat at the
Fond du Lac exhibits.



An unusually nice variety of
foreign coins were offered at
Janesville Show by Beloit
dealer Walter Swinonos.



Beaver Dam dealer "Rex" Blakeley
gets the word from his lovely wife
Susan at Janesville Show. (She
says he reads K.O.W. News before
his Playboy Magazine.)



Rudolph, Wisconsin dealer
Jim Gouker was a long way
from home at Janesville
Fall Show.

LA CROSSE SHOW

Best of Show

Dick Anderson - Columbian Exposition

First Place

Jack Keller - Silver Dollars
Jack Keller - U.S. Paper Money
Paul Wendling - Medals
Phil Romeril - Foreign Coins

FOND DU LAC SHOW

Best of Show

Harold Helem - U.S. Medals

First Place

Harry Kowalewski - Paper Money
Dick Anderson - Columbian
Armen Nimmer - U.S. Coins
Phil Romeril - Foreign Coins

Special

Gene Hunt - Medals
R. Vandergeest - Canada

Junior

Sharon Binder - Ship Coins

MILWAUKEE SHOW

Best of Show

Gale Highsmith - Apollo 11 Medals

First Place

Chuck Opitz - Odd & Curious
F. Dickfoss - Foreign Coins
Dan Gleason - Military Decorations
Frank Goetsch - Medals

Second Place

Ed Kuebler - Foreign Crowns
Wm. Fuchs - Tokens

MADISON SHOW

Best of Show

Virgil Jackson - Isle of Man

First Place

Mrs. Russ Hartman - Canada Comm.
Gale Highsmith - Apollo 11 Medals
Harold Helm - Medals
Phil Romeril - Channel Isle
Mrs. Ron Calkins - Odd & Curious

Second Place

Daisy Jackson - Lundy Coins
Dick Anderson - Columbian
R. Vandergeest - Canada Dollars
Russ Hartman - U.S. Paper
Jay Rathbun, Jr. - U.S. Medals

Gordon Gill Award

Virgil Jackson - Paper Errors

WISCONSIN



Members and Clubs on the Move

WISCONSIN RAPIDS

President - George Blenker
Vice President - James Gouker
Secretary - Gary Brundidge
Treasurer - Paul Firnett

BARABOO

President - Bob Little
Vice President - Fred Ahrens
Secretary - Leverne Darnse
Treasurer - Ed Forge

WAUSAU

President - Gerald Johnson
Vice President - George Alafouzios
Secretary - Gene Hunt
Treasurer - Roman Leonard

OSHKOSH

President - Ron Metz
Vice President - Harold Helm
Secretary-Treasurer - Irene Blanchette
Librarian - Tom Winter
B.O.G. - Al Luck
B.O.G. - Ron Saft

- WAUSAU - N.O.W. - WAUSAU

With phony paper money showing up increasing frequency in the midwest and specifically in Madison and Milwaukee, the Secret Service offers the following information:

To be regarded with greatest suspicion are bills of \$10 and \$20 denominations. These are "favorites" of the counterfeiters since they are small enough that they do not demand the closest scrutiny, yet large enough to be made into legitimate change.

When a note is suspected, it should be compared with a genuine note of the same denomination. Look for the fibers in the paper, remembering that they can be printed on the surface of the note by counterfeiters.

Counterfeit printing looks flat. In the genuine portrait, all the delicate lines are sharp and distinct.

The Secret Service brochure, "Counterfeiting and Forgery," can be secured by writing U.S. Secret Service, Department of the Treasury, 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20220.

Today's counterfeiters have exceptional tools at their disposal, both photographic and graphic, and ready access to both.

The counterfeiting ring usually involves a producer who delivers the phonies to a dealer for 10 to 15 cents per dollar of value. They receive another markup in passing from the dealer to a distributor, who in turn offers them to the "shower" at 25 or 35% of their face value, depending on their quality.

The law makes no distinction between the "shower" who purchases counterfeits at a discount, and the "sucker" who discovered too late that he owns a counterfeit and attempts to pass it on. The penalty for passing or possessing counterfeit money is a fine of \$5000 and/or a 15-year prison term.

Taking the loss on even a high-denomination note by turning it to the Secret Service is the most desirable course of action.

DID YOU KNOW?

The term "Greenback" originated with the demand notes of 1861 because the reverse of the notes were printed in green ink.

THE ROLLER FAILS

The U.S. mint coin roller experiment has been written off as a failure and new, faster presses installed according to late word in the halls of Congress. The mints' new four-strike coining presses were developed by mint personnel according to testimony before the House appropriations subcommittee by Frederick W. Tate, Deputy Director of the Mint.

Denver Mint technicians developed the first four-strike press from large slow cartridge presses borrowed from the Department of Defense for a crash coining program in late 1964.

Denver also converted the first Bliss press to a four-strike press. The new four-strike press will go much faster and it is heavier.

There are 12 of the new four-strike presses at the Mint now, Tate said, but industry is trying to come up with an even better press than this one, he disclosed.

"The expected die life for these presses will be quite similar to what we are experiencing now. For example we are getting a million strikes per die for one-cent pieces. In the coin roller, the best they could do was 50,000. They couldn't begin to approach us."

Ben C. Hollyfield, the Mint's financial manager, said costs of each die is about \$15, or \$30 per pair. Cost of the coin roller dies was up to \$75 or \$90, and very much more expensive.

Show Calendar

SHOW DATES

April 4 - Waukesha
April 18 - Beaver Dam
April 24 and 25 - Racine
April 30 - Baraboo
May 12 and 13 - N.O.W. Wausau
September 25 and 26 - Milwaukee

... - 1971

Second Annual Waukesha Coin Club
and Bourse will be held on Sunday,
April 4, 1971 at the K of C Hall at
East Moreland Blvd. (Highway 18),
Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Admission will again this year be
restricted to club members only.

Nothing new will be added. Piloted
by Kurt Krueger and N.O.W. Secretary
Mike Segersin, a table will be donated
by N.O.W. to encourage membership in
Northwestern Wisconsin.

Committee members are as follows:

General & Bourse - Kurt Krueger
Exhibits - Wm. Fuchs
Hospitality - Ralph Wright

Queries should be addressed to:

Kurt R. Krueger
210 North Avenue
Waukesha, Wisconsin 53029



WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE??? TUNE IN NEXT
ISSUE FOR THE STARTLING ANSWER!

MILWAUKEE SHOW

The 36th Annual Coin Convention of The
Milwaukee Numismatic Society was held
September 26 and 27 at the War Memorial
Center. Registered attendance was 2,163.

Members of the Show Committee were:

General Chairman, A.P. (Del) Bertschy
Bourse, Anthony Tremte
Awards, Gale Highsmith
Security, Tom Casper and Russ
Bonenfant
Registration, Myrtle Swain
Exhibits, Michael Tramte
Publicity, Robert Gantner
Hospitality, Joyce Ziolkowski

NEW MEETING PLACE

Baraboo Coin Club meeting Tuesday
at 8:00 P.M., Old Lutheran School
Basement, Corner of 5th & East St.
Use 5th Street entrance.

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN

OFFICERS

James Medd, Green Bay, President
Richard Anderson, Menasha, Vice
President
Mike Segersin, 1159 Day Street,
Green Bay, Wis. 54303, Secretary-
Treasurer.

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Jim Kroepfl, Lake Tomahawk
Clifford Manthe, Tomah
Gordon Gill, Madison
Roy Miller, Racine
Ralph Parker, Racine
Clifford Mishler, Iola
Virgil Jackson, Beaver Dam
Del Bertschy, Milwaukee
Art Zoellner, Marshfield
Gale Highsmith, Milwaukee
Tom Fruit, Green Bay
Floyd Janney, Waukesha

N.O.W. NEWS

Gerald Johnson, Editor
1921 Chase Street
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN

MIKE SEGERSIN

1159 DAY ST.

GREEN BAY, WIS. 54302



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